

America's FUTURE

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FIRMNESS AND SOFTNESS

While President Kennedy was justly praised for taking a definite stand on the crisis in Laos, several other things were going on which raised a question: Does the administration's right hand know what its left hand is doing?

We mentioned last week the lifting of restrictions on Soviet propaganda coming into the United States. The Reds are now free to flood America with some 15 million pieces of this stuff - in order, we are told, to 'improve cultural exchanges.' Evidently we

are also going to be flooded with Soviet crabmeat in direct competition with a big industry, Alaskan crabmeat, of our new American state. Heretofore, crabmeat canned in the Soviet Union has been prohibited from entering the United States. This is because we have a law which bars the importation of goods produced by slave labor. Russian crabmeat is processed in the notorious Siberian slave-labor camps of Communist Russia. The administration announced it was lifting the

ban against Soviet crabmeat because there is 'no current evidence' that it is canned by convict or slave labor. No American officials, of course, are permitted to investigate in the Soviet Union whether this is true or not. Seemingly, somebody in our government thinks the Soviet slave-labor camps can be wiped out with a few ridiculous words like 'no current evidence.'

On top of all this came a sudden move during the trial of a Soviet spy in Chicago. He was a United Nations employee named Melekh. He and another man, an alien named Hirsch, were indicted for conspiring to steal American military information for Soviet Russia. In the midst of their trial, Attorney General Robert Kennedy -on recommendation of Secretary of State Rusk - intervened directly.

WHO PAYS?

We hate to mention anything so sordid but the question has to be asked: Who is going to pay for the New Frontier? The answer, of course, is obvious. You are -in increased taxes or more inflation or both. Mr. Kennedy already has told us to expect a big government deficit for the next

He asked the presiding federal judge to drop the espionage charges provided the Russian left the country. The judge, with obvious reluctance, did so. In the process, the charges against Hirsch also had to be dropped. The Soviet news agency Tass greeted this latest be-kind-to-communists action in typical Red fashion. It said the American authorities had 'virtually admitted the groundlessness of the false accusations.'

It would seem that the New Frontiersmen, despite years of mounting evidence, are still not aware of the fact that we are fighting a worldwide conspiracy. And you do not win against a conspiracy like the communist menace by slaps on the wrist here and there, firmness on one or two fronts, and jellyfish softness on numerous other fronts.

two years. He blames it on the previous administration because it over-estimated the tax take. But this is not the whole story by any means. There is a good bit of joking around Washington about the administration's hesitancy in putting a price-tag on its innumerable proposals to

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solve all the ills of America and mankind in general. But not mentioning the price won't make it go away. Somebody remarked that the New Frontiersmen are like the lady who orders all sorts of things from the stores without asking the price because she's afraid if she does the total cost will scare her or her husband — out of her buying spree. But at least the lady and her husband are spending their own money. The government is spending other people's money — yours.

However, despite the New Frontiersmen's girlish shyness about the price-tag on their schemes, it is possible to make an estimate of the

cost. When we do, it becomes clear that Mr. Kennedy too is indulging in a little under-estimation when he says the government will go in the red about five billion dollars. That's partly the expected deficit on the last Eisenhower budget. But a conservative estimate of the cost of only a portion of the new proposals comes to around 12 or 13 billion dollars a year. This must be piled on top of the current spending of about 80 billion dollars a year. The President has already said that the debt limit — the amount the government can borrow — must be raised to take care of the expected deficit. The additional 12 or 13 billion dollars, assuming the New Frontier can put over its new spending schemes, must also either be borrowed or raised by taxes. If it is borrowed, the public debt will break through the 300-billion-dollar mark and the poor old dollar, now a pale imitation at 47¢ of its former valuable self, will be worth less than ever. If the additional spending is raised by taxes, they must go on top of the tax grab which already has everybody groggy. In fact, the taxpayer gets hooked in either case, because interest on

the borrowed money must come out of taxes. This bill for interest alone is close to 10 billion dollars a year right now. On the average, this is a levy on each U.S. family of \$200 a year just to pay interest on the debt. Keep that in mind next time you hear a New Frontier economist tell you public debt has no meaning.

The unbelievable sum of 12 or 13 billion dollars in proposed new spending does not include defense expenditures. It does include the sweetly named Peace Corps (which one columnist has dubbed the Kid-die Korps). This supposedly

unpaid and volunteer effort is figured - as a beginning - at around 40 million dollars the first year. And of course there are the inevitable foreign handouts. These no doubt will include spending your tax dollars for more world-saving schemes like the one recently revealed in Pakistan. Our foreign-aiders spent hundreds of thousands of dollars supplying walk-in meat refrigerators to the Pakistani army. They stood idle - evidently nobody told the foreign hand-out boys that the Pakistanis are Moslems who kill their meat the day it is eaten.

CRAZY BUT TRUE

So far as defense expenditures are concerned, certainly everyone wants the United States to have as strong a defense as possible. But even here the waste indulged in by bureaucrats who spend other people's money must be fantastic. For instance, Ed Koterba of the Scripps-Howard Newspapers recently reported that the Pentagon was asking for bids on a certain type of telephone hand-set for the Army Signal Corps. The Pentagon had bought such equipment before, and paid seven dollars a piece for it. But Mr. Ko-

terba found a concern in Ohio which was selling the identical hand-set for less than four dollars a piece. He called the owner of the Ohio company and asked how he could do it. It turned out to be quite simple. The owner merely sent his buyers around to military surplus sales - that is, places where the Pentagon was getting rid of material it had declared surplus. They bought up the parts of the hand-sets and the company assembled them. Thanks to the Pentagon selling at a discount the material it was now

asking for bids on, the Ohio company could sell the hand-sets at half what the Pentagon paid the original manufacturer. Incidentally, a small businessman who noticed this item in Mr. Koterba's column saw a chance to make a quick and legitimate buck. He thought he would buy up the Ohio company's supply of hand-sets and offer them to the Pentagon at a slight profit, but still less than the Pentagon paid originally. He was actually the lowest bidder

out of six others on the new order for the hand-sets. But no word came from the Pentagon within the fixed time limit. The Pentagon finally said he couldn't supply the number of hand-sets it needed. Why it didn't take what it could get so cheaply, and buy the others elsewhere is not explained, nor is it explained why it sold at a loss a product it is now buying. All this may sound crazy, but that's the way bureaucrats operate with other people's money.

Foregoing items covered in Mutual network broadcast 4/2/61

Book Review THE REAL TIBET

TIBET IS MY COUNTRY by Thubten Jigme Norbu, as told to Heinrich Harrer, 264 pages, Dutton, N.Y., \$5.00.

A great curiosity has always prevailed about the 'roof of the world' (most of Tibet is 16,000 feet above sea level) - and especially about its fabled capital and sacred city Lhasa. Tibet was a peaceful nation ruled by its religious leader, the Dalai Lama, who was always the 'reincarnation' of the chief Tibetan divinity. Then came the Chinese communists, and finally in 1959, the unsuc-

cessful but amazing insurrection of the Tibetans against their barbarous domination, followed by the flight of the Dalai Lama to India. Unknown and mysterious Tibet made headlines all over the world.

A number of books about this strange and beautiful land have been written, but this is the first one by a Tibetan. Thubten Norbu is the eldest brother of the Dalai Lama. This is his autobiography, as told to Heinrich Harrer, renowned mountain climber and skier who lived in Tibet for seven years and

is himself an authority on the country.

The result is an authentic, deeply interesting story of Tibet and its people told in fascinating detail. Norbu and his baby brother, the future Dalai Lama, came from a large and closely-knit farmer's family in a small village. His story about his youthful days gives us a new and fresh insight into the daily life of these sturdy people. There is also life in the famed Tibetan monasteries where Norbu was educated, and vivid vignettes of legendary Lhasa where Norbu often visited his brother, who was also his religious and secular ruler. And there is, inevitably with the spread of the Red tide over his beloved country, the tale of his own and later his brother's escape.

To Westerners, certain of Norbu's beliefs and interpretations may seem naive. Yet he saw quickly something to which many sophisticated

Westerners seem totally blind. The Chinese Red invaders tried hard to sell him on their system: the State would look after everybody; everyone would work; children would be taken care of better by the State; there would be equal distribution of everything, etc., etc. To Norbu 'the thought of such a State never ceased to horrify me anew. It was a conception in crass opposition to everything we held dear; and as they described their paradise it sounded like hell on earth to me; a life of grey, uniform dullness, without warmth, without individual human love and affection, a life not worth living, and a world not worth living in.'

This is a beguiling book, with an added dividend for the reader of a series of remarkably beautiful color photographs of a magnificent land now held in the evil thralldom of the Red scourge.

- *Rosalie Gordon*

WHEN THE BRICKBATS FLY

"No one complains when congressional committees investigate gangsters or hoodlums or the K.K.K. or racketeering in the trade union movement, or monopolistic violations by big business. It is only when congressional committees undertake the investigation of communist subversion that the brickbats

start to fly, and that editorials begin to appear in respected national newspapers, questioning the propriety and constitutionality of the investigation." - *Senator Thomas Dodd*

THE NATURE OF THE ENEMY

"A student named John Lee Franklin, at El Camino College in Los Angeles...launched a monthly anti-communist publication. About 3:15 in the morning, his apartment was entered by six thugs who called him a Nazi and a Fascist and beat him up. Thus, we see again the nature of the communist enemy. To communists, freedom of speech and press means freedom for Reds only, with everybody else muzzled..." - *N.Y. DAILY NEWS*

(Editor's Note: There are still available copies of the sensational 24-page pamphlet *THE NATURE OF THE ENEMY* by Reuben Maury, chief editorial writer of the above newspaper. Write to America's Future, 542 Main Street, New Rochelle, New York. Each copy: \$.25, five copies for \$1.00).

NO LAUGHING MATTER

"In the early years of this century, when the wisdom of the income tax amendment was being debated, one opponent of the amendment was laughed at by supporters of the proposal because he made the radical statement that in time the income

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tax rate might go as high as ten percent of a man's earnings. Proponents of the income tax retorted that such a 'confiscatory' rate would never be approved by the elected representatives of the American people.

"Today the income tax rates paid by the American people range from a low of 20 per cent to a high of 91 per cent."

- New Haven (Mo.) LEADER

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